The Alexandria Gazette

TUESDAY EVENING, FEB. 28.

NEWS BY TO-DAY'S MAIL.

In the U. S. Senate, yesterday, on a resolution, to have a painting of a late naval victory placed in the Capitol, Mr. Sumner opposed it, and in his remarks, "reminded the Senate that 'peace hath her victories no less renowned than war,' and if any picture was to be purchased he should move to insert that it be Carpenter's representation of the signing of the emancipation proclamation. In the meantime he offered a proviso that in the national Capitol, dedicated to the national Union, there shall be no picture commemorating a victory over our own countrymen."

The Richmond Sentinal of Friday says, a few nights ago a party of seven men, some of whom had deserted from the army more than a year ago, attempted to cross the Potomac to Maryland from a point between Chapawansic and Aquia Creek, in a small boat. The boat ran upon a cake of floating ice, was capsized, and the whole party drowned. Robert Able, Nix Able, two men of the name of Garrison, Robert Pearson, and two others, (names un known,) were the party drowned.

The sentence of death passed upon Norman L. King, of Washington, by Gen. Doubleday's military commission, for leaving the Union lines in July last, (when the Confederates were threatening Washington,) and joining the Confederate army and fighting against the Union troops, he being subject to draft there, has been suspended by President Lincoln.

The brig Eclipse, which sailed from Phila delphia on Saturday, for Barbados, in the West Indies, had on board Rev. William McLain, D. D. of Washington city, who goes out to arrange for an expedition from Barbados to Liberia, of several hundred persons who wish to settle in Liberia.

Mr. Van Winkle, from the Committee on Finance of the U. S. Senate, yesterday reported a bill to authorize State banks, with branches, to organize under the national banking laws, on the principle of the mother bank's ultimate liability for taxes, and circulation of her several branches.

A "literary lady," who has "written several books and much poetry," living in Philadel phia, on a visit to Washington, has been detected in stealing a parasol from the President's House. The parasol was recovered, and the lady allowed to go home.

Lusby, re arrested on a charge of committing an outrage on a little girl in Washington, which caused her death, has been committed to jail in that city, to answer before the Court.

The U. S. Secretary of War has ordered the pay of thirty one commanding officers of regiments to be stopped until proper rolls and returns of their regiments are filed in the Adjutant General's office.

The mail steamer Dictator at Washington trom City Point, brought 1,000 passengers—many of them being females and non combatants ordered from the front.

A colored man hamed Delany has been appointed surgeon of volunteers with the rank of major, and ordered to report to Gen. Sazton, S. C., for duty.

LATE NEWS.

The National Intelligencer says: "We have reason to believe that Gen. Singleton received authority from the U. S. Government to pass to the Confederate lines, and that he has gone, not upon private business, but to see what may be done by him to bring about peace.—We believe that Judge Hughes is to act in the same capacity."

A small Confederate force, under Lieutenant Wodley and Sergeant Shadburne, attacked and routed recently, in the vicinity of Burwell's Bay, Isle of Wight county, a Federal detachment of the Naval brigade, numbering some two hundred and fifty men. Sixteen of the latter were killed. How many were wounded or taken prisoners is not stated.

Cannonading and picket-firing were heard on Saturday between the two armies before Richmond, and, on Saturday night, the cannonading appeared to be general. Heavy columns of troops have been seen, for several days past, moving in various directions along Lee's lines.

Gen. Lee reports that a detachment of Vaughan's cavalry recently captured 60 men of the 20th Ohio Regiment, with their horses and equipments, at Sweet Water and Athens stations, on the railroad beyond Knoxville, Tennessee.

Richmond papers of Saturday contain telegrams announcing that Gens. Kelly and Crook had reached Harrisonburg on Friday, and it was expected they would arrive at Richmond on Saturday.

The Louisville Journal, speaking of Lee's army, editorially says: "We have reason to say that the rebels are expecting very soon to startle the whole country and astonish the world. No matter what our reason may be, it is a good one."

The Chattanooga Gazette says Bridgeport was almost totally destroyed by fire last Tuesday night.

A report from Frankfort, Ky., states that about 6,000 mounted Confederates are in the vicinity of Mount Sterling.

The Richmond Enquirer says: "A rumor prevails that Sherman has captured 12,000 bales of cotton."

Gen. Burbridge has been directed to report to Gen. Thomas for service in field.

Deserters report reports of a talked of evacuation of Petersburg.

Gold, in New York, yesterday afternoon, 200.

Vice-President Andrew Johnston is on his way to Washington city.

A man named C. O'Leary, a doorkeeper at the President's House in Washington, has been dismissed from employment upon being detected in taking bribes from persons wishing to see the President. He was found out by Mr. Etheridge, of Tenn., who was making application for the discharge of some prisoners, and this O'Leary agreed to carry the note in to the President and get him to sign it, for the sum of fifty dollars. The delinquent doorkeeper would prevent persons from coming to the President, and then take a bribe to carry a message.

Farmers in some portions of Canada are suffering from the scarcity of fodder for their cattle.

In the Pastoral Latter of the Roman Cath. olic Archbishop of Baltimore he refers to the application of the late Encyclical Letter of the Pope in this country, and says, that "to stretch the words of the Pontiff, evidently intended for the stand point of European radicals and infidels, so as to make them include the state of things established in this country, by the Constitution, in regard to the liberty of conscience, of worship, and of the press were man. ifestly unfair and unjust;" and he adds that "all matters contained in the Encyclical, as well as the long catalogue of eighty propositions condemned in its appendix, or Syllams, are to be judged of by the same standard -These proposition are condemned in the sense of those who uttered and maintained them and in no other."

THE CONFEDERATE RAMS.—The Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune says:

Private letters from London say that the Rebel French ram Olinda, or Stonewall, was at Ferrol, in Spain, but expected to leave there immediately. The United States steamer Niagara was after her, as was also one of the French war steamers. She was roughly used in the Bay of Biscay, and will prove a failure. These letters also state that there were three other Rebel pirate vessels pregaring in England now, and another, the Ajax, sailed a few weeks since. Another, the Hercules, is now ready to sail from the Clyde. This fleet was intended to break the blockade of one or more of the Rebel ports, in hopes that this would lead to complications with foreign Powers, and ultimately to the recognition of the Rebel Government. This programme has been upset by the occupation of the coast cities, and it remains to be seen what course these pirates will now take.

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